



# St. John of the Cross

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## Our Parish COMMUNITY

July 20, 2025

**Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)**

Genesis 18:1-10a / Colossians 1:24-28 / Luke 10:38-42



## Good News!

July 20, 2025

**Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)**

Genesis 18:1-10a / Colossians 1:24-28 / Luke 10:38-42

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

**These days, when people come to confession, they seldom list their sins by name and number.** Quite often, it seems, they simply talk about their lives, about the chaos in which they seem to be living, about the relationships that are less than what they would hope, about the values they've let slide sometimes into the muck, about how they've turned in upon themselves, and about how caring for others has faded from their lives. After they've told their stories, I will usually ask if they take any time in the day to be quiet and if they pray in whatever way they find helpful and with some regularity. Invariably, they will say that they've let such prayer time slip away; that they have not been praying the way they once did. In such cases, I often suggest that as penance, they take some time—even just a little time—in the next day or two to simply quiet themselves in the presence of God.

Life will always tend to be chaotic. These days, there is too much going on for life not to be. But, quiet and reflective prayer seems to bring a balance, a refocusing upon what is important and what is trivial. Without that, we can become overwhelmed and lose our way. It is what the Martha/Mary story is about. It's not that our own Martha-service is not worthwhile. It's crucially important in order to make life hum along in an orderly fashion. But without Mary's reflective part, our lives can become muddled drudgery. ●

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### Mass Schedule

**Saturday: 6:00 PM**

**Sunday:**

7:30 AM & 11:00 AM ~ English

6:00 PM ~ Spanish

**Daily Mass:**

Mon., Tues., & Fri. ~ 8:00 AM

Thurs.(Sp.) ~ 6:00 PM

**1st Saturday Mass: 8:00 AM**

**Adoration**

**Thurs.~ Spanish—6:30PM**

### Reconciliation

**Thursday: 5:30 PM - 6:00 PM**

**Saturday: 5:00 PM - 5:30 PM**

**Sunday: 5:30 PM**

Please contact Fr. Patrick by phone or email if you need to make an appointment for **Confession** or **Anointing of the Sick**.

### Parish Office Hours

**Mon, Tues, Wed, Thurs:**

8:30 AM - 12:00 PM

1:00 PM - 4:30 PM

**CLOSED FOR LUNCH**

12:00 PM - 1:00 PM

**OFFICE IS CLOSED**

**Fri., Sat., & Sun.**

# Worship, Prayer, & Ministries

## MASS INTENTIONS FOR THIS WEEK

<b>Sat.-19 6:00PM</b>	† Maria Magdalena Romanos (1st anniv.) by Family
<b>Sun. -20 7:30AM</b>	† Freddy Serna, Jr., by Murray Family † Adolph Skrobarczyk (birthday) by Graham Family † Fermin & † Guadalupe Vasquez by Anita Bazan Living and Deceased Members of the Sociedad Guadalupeanas
<b>11:00AM</b>	† Bobby K. Hughes by Eva Medrano Hughes † Carmen Ybanez (13th anniv.) by Lillie Rivera & Family
<b>6:00PM</b>	† Tomas Soto y las almas de purgatorio por Familia Las familias de la parroquia
<b>Mon.-21 8:00AM</b>	In memory of the wedding anniversary of † Dcn. Jim and Eva Culpepper by Eva Culpepper and Family In thanksgiving to the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary by Anita Bazan
<b>Tues.-22 8:00AM</b> <b>Saint Mary Magdelene</b>	† Monica Terrell (1st anniv.) by Michael and Sharon Bartosch
<b>Thurs.-24 6:00PM</b> <b>SPA</b>	† David Gaza por San Juanita Gaza
<b>6:30PM</b>	<b>ADORACIÓN / HORA SANTA</b>
<b>Fri.- 25 8:00AM</b> <b>Saint James</b>	† Dcn. Jim Culpepper (1st anniv.) by Eva Culpepper and Family † Domingo Guerrero (anniv.) by Bazan, Leal, and Hinojosa Family

## Masses for July 26 & 27

<b>Sat.- 26 6 :00PM</b> <b>Saint Joachim and Anne, Parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary</b>	† Jerry Cross by Romanos Family † Dcn. Jim Culpepper (1st anniv.) by Eva Culpepper and Family † Jose Gonzales (4th anniv.) by Family † Maria Magdalena Romanos by Romanos Family
<b>Sun.—27 7:30AM</b>	† Dcn. Jim Culpepper (1st anniv.) by Eva Culpepper and Family † Allen Migura by Migura Family † Freddy Serna, Jr., by Anita Bazan
<b>11:00AM</b>	† Delfina Beltran by Janie Beltran † Dcn. Jim Culpepper (1st anniv.) by Eva Culpepper and Family † Ricky Gutierrez (Heavenly birthday) by Diane McBride and family
<b>6:00PM</b>	† Dcn. Jim Culpepper (1st anniv.) por Eva Culpepper y familia Las familias de la parroquia

The sanctuary light is offered in memory of

**Freddy Serna, Jr.**

By Mary Sanchez

Thank you for your donation to the altar flowers,  
Bertha Forbes, Kathy Gafford, and Liza Ochoa

## Ministry Schedule for Mass

### Ministry Schedule

**July 26— 6:00PM—Lector:** Pablo Alaniz  
**EM:** Liza Ochoa, Don and Kim Rokohl,  
Mary Villarreal

**July 27—7:30AM— Lector:** Annette Rivera  
**EM:** Margie Svetlik, Quinton Smithwick,  
Jose Isais, Maria Miller

**11:00AM-Lector:** Karol Kocurek  
**EM:** Janie Flores, Rose Puente Polk,  
Maria Galvan-Gordon, Dee DeLeon

**6:00PM-Lector—** Joaquin Ordonez Maldonado  
**EM—** Esmeralda Castro, Mariela Ordonez

## PRAYER LIST

We continue to pray for the needs of those in our parish:

**John Delaney, Art Forbes, Angelica Frees, Cindy Lopez, Lopez Family, Georgina Marsey, Antonio Medrano, Charlotte Pridgen, Ruben A. Puente, Diana Sandoval, Amilia Nicole Smithwick, Sissy Thomas, Diana Villarreal, and Mark Wofford**

*The names of newly added persons will remain for three weeks. Contact the Parish Office if names need to be added to the prayer list.*

*Praying for expecting mothers and their babies:*  
**Grace Hill, Theresa Laurienti, and Laura Perez**

## Praying for our Military

**We remember these service personnel in each  
'Mass for the Families of the Parish'**

**Air Force:** Preston Holliday,  
Christopher Randall Lauer II, Alayah Moore,  
Audrey Winstead

**Army:** Father Jim Craig, Magdeleena Delaney,  
Celine De Los Santos, Allen McDonald,  
Jacob Madrid, Fernando Ramos III,  
Anthony Rios, Tyree Winstead

**Coast Guard:** Corey Bunton and Joshua Salinas

**Marines:** Aurora Alarcon, Hunter Frees, and  
Andre Rodriguez

**Navy:** Cory Elyasevich and Noah Vasquez

Please pray for our  
**ACTIVE DUTY MILITARY!**

Please call the parish office or use the online form to submit names & branch of service

1. Go to [www.st-johnnog.org](http://www.st-johnnog.org)
2. hover mouse on **ABOUT** tab
3. click on **'Active Military Prayer Request'**



# A Note From Our Pastor

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

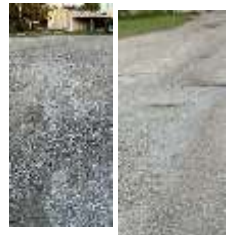
*I continue from last week's bulletin. I quote, "The putting off of the job until it is "absolutely necessary" is common for most houses and even for companies. But when that decision comes that we can no longer put it off, we have to set up the plan and the budget to get these major renovations done. Well, that day has come for our parish and we are embarking on planning and budgeting."*



The next project from the Master Plan Committee is the Parish Parking Lot. According to the records I was able to research, the parking lot was last fully repaved and striped around 2005. Then in 2012 construction of the new office/rectory building, and in 2017 with the construction of the Religious Education Building, there were plumbing and sewer modifications in the center of the parking lot. The parking lot has been evaluated and there are several absolutely necessary repairs and upgrades.



The first concern is the edge of the sidewalk and curbing on the south side the church. That 18-24" inch space between the sidewalk and the edge of the parking lot should have parking stops to prevent autos from coming too far forward and blocking the sidewalk. This is extremely important for our seniors with canes and others with walking difficulties to get from their car to the handicapped entrance on the south side of the church. This problem of cars parking over the sidewalk extends down the entire length of the parking lot from the front of the church and all the way down to the Religious Education Building.



The large pothole and other minor potholes in the center of the parking lot is the second concern. It is evident from the pictures that there were two or three major repairs done under the parking lot several years ago that required the digging up and then a repaving patch to the parking lot. These patched repairs overtime often sink, creating a pothole that with time continues to grow into a major pothole with the constant car traffic over it.



The third concern is the areas that flood after a good rain. The parking lot area outside of the entrance door to the kitchen in the parish hall and all the way to the Knights of Columbus building are often underwater following a good rain. This southwest corner of the parking lot space closest to the KC building has sunken and is now covered with dirt that grass has taken hold on top of the parking lot and possibly through the asphalt. Each year this grassy section gets a little bit larger as the grass continues to creep forward. This allows water to build under the asphalt and accelerate the deterioration of the parking lot surface.

The fourth concern is the handicapped accessibility to the parish hall. The current ramp is too small and not up to ADA requirements. In addition, the ramp needs to be properly resurfaced for both wheelchairs and mobility assistance canes. And upon a close inspection while there is a handicapped ramp, there are no handicapped striped parking spaces adjacent to the parish hall ramp on the east side entrance of the parish hall. And the most commonly used north side double door entrance of the parish hall has no handicapped accessibility. With parking lot renovations of this size, we are required to bring buildings into compliance with ADA regulations.



A complete removal and replacing the entire parking lot's surface is suggested as the best answer for all of these concerns. If not addressed, the potholes will continue to enlarge and deepen, and the grassy growth on the sunken places will continue to expand. And the ADA modifications with the parking stops and the ramps is required by our Christian charity for our fellow parishioners with such needs, as well as compliance with federal regulations. This is a repair that we can no longer put off!

Love and Prayers,  
Fr. Patrick

# Stewardship of Treasure

Week #2	COLLECTION	Totals Prior Week -	Goal	Actual	Total Annual Over / (under)	YTD Goal	TOTAL OFFERTORY
7/13/2025	Envelope Collection	\$ 400.00	\$ 2,100.00	\$ 1,565.00	\$ (135.00)	\$ 4,200.00	
	Loose Collection	\$ (174.00)	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 1,061.00	\$ (313.00)	\$ 2,400.00	
	On-Line Collection	\$ 1,813.17	\$ 1,400.00	\$ 1,784.95	\$ 2,198.12	\$ 2,800.00	
	<b>TOTAL Collection</b>	<b>\$ 2,039.17</b>	<b>\$ 4,700.00</b>	<b>\$ 4,410.95</b>	<b>\$ 1,750.12</b>	<b>\$ 9,400.00</b>	<b>\$ 11,150.12</b>



This week our parish will take up a collection to support the **Solidarity Fund for the Church in Africa**. Although the Church in Africa is growing, many still lack access to basic resources and pastoral care. The Solidarity Fund supports pastoral projects to build the capacity of the Church and foster lasting peace and reconciliation across a continent often marked by division and tension. To learn more, visit [www.usccb.org/africa](http://www.usccb.org/africa).

## Parish Organizations

### ALTAR SOCIETY

**August monthly procession on Sunday, August 3 ~ San Juanita Gaza**

#### ALTAR DUTY CLEANING SCHEDULE

**July 24-26**— Anita Bazan, Glenda Rodriguez, Lestly Conchas, Maria Albina Resendiz

**August 1-2**—Paid Professional

### SOCIEDAD GUADALUPANA

**Corporate Mass—July 20 @ 7:30AM**

**Rosary @ 7:00AM**

**Leader: Norma Cornejo**

**Offertory: Jennifer and Jessica Alejandro**

**Roses provided to Our Lady of Guadalupe by Gracie Alaniz and Bea Garcia.**



**BINGO ~ Sunday, July 19, at 1PM in the parish hall.**

### KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS # 8335

**NEXT MEETING: AUGUST 5**

**Rosary: 6:40 PM** at the KOC Building

*Men 18 yrs. & older are welcome*

The Knight of Columbus #8335 held an exemplification ceremony on Tuesday, July 15 and welcomes their newest member-

**Vincent Gordon.**



## Works of Mercy



Thank you, Woodmen of the World,  
for your donation to our  
Works of Mercy Food Pantry.

The next bread and pastries distribution will be  
at **SJoC** on **July 23** at 9AM and at

**SFOA** on **Saturday, August 9.**



Coastal Bend Food Bank distributions:

**St. Francis of Assisi** on **Saturday, July 26**, at 9AM

**St. John of the Cross** on **Thursday, August 7**, at 9AM





# Vacation Bible School

We had 65 pups, huskies, and wolves join us for a Northern Excursion at VBS this week! They learned that Jesus is our true north!



## Community



St. John of the Cross Catholic Church

**SOCI EDAD GUADALUPANAS**

**BINGO IN JULY FUNDRAISER**

Sunday, July 20, 2025

Parish Hall

Doors open at 12:00pm for Food and Drinks

BINGO starts at 1:00pm

\$20.00 for BINGO book for 10 Games (4 to a page)



# Dear Padre,

***“Lead us not into temptation...” God does not lead us into temptation, so what is this saying?***

You are of the same mind as the pope! In 2019, Pope Francis approved changing the Lord's Prayer, that is, changing the phrase “lead us not into temptation” to “do not let us fall into temptation.” Pope Francis said that the original appeared to suggest that God caused the temptation. However, most Scripture scholars agree that “lead us not into temptation” is the best translation from the Greek. It's a subjunctive verb. It's used in the second person, addressed directly to God. And it really does say “do not lead us into temptation.”

What did the pope hope to accomplish? Those who are most familiar with the pope say that what he was trying to clarify was not anchored in the intricacies of translation but rather anchored in pastoral life. He wanted to focus the attention of God's people on their action, “falling into temptation,” and not on a misunderstanding of what Jesus was teaching. It was a point of focus and clarification to help us in our spiritual journey and our understanding of our relationship with God. Understood in this sense, the new translation would accomplish this pastoral purpose. ●

**Fr. Thomas M. Santa, CSsR / DearPadre.org**



*The Temptation of Christ by Otto Münch, relief on the door of Grossmünster Church in Zurich, Switzerland.*

## Do you have a question for the Padre?

Go to **DearPadre.org** to send your question and to learn more about *Dear Padre*.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
July 21	July 22	July 23	July 24	July 25	July 26	July 27
Weekday	St. Mary	Weekday	Weekday	St. James,	Sts. Joachim and	Seventeenth
Ex 14:5-18	Magdalene	Ex 16:1-5, 9-15	Ex 19:1-2, 9-11,	Apostle	Anne, Parents	Sunday in
Mt 12:38-42	Sg 3:1-4b or	Mt 13:1-9	16-20b	2 Cor 4:7-15	of the Blessed	Ordinary Time
	2 Cor 5:14-17		Mt 13:10-17	Mt 20:20-28	Virgin Mary	Gn 18:20-32
	Jn 20:1-2, 11-18				Ex 24:3-8	Col 2:12-14
					Mt 13:24-30	Lk 11:1-13



## A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

*When I start my day, do I throw myself headlong into the things to be done, or do I first seek inspiration in the Word of God? At times, we begin the day automatically, we start doing things...like hens. No. We must start the day by first of all looking to the Lord, taking his Word... allowing this to be the inspiration for the day.*

**ANGELUS, ROME, JULY 17, 2022**